FBIS DAILY REPORT

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AMBASSADOR DELIVERING REPLY TO BRAZILIAN NOTE ON PARANA TALKS

PY061312 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1135 GMT 6 Mar 79 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 6 Mar (NA)--Oscar Camilion, Argentine ambassador to Brazil, has returned to that country with the Argentine answer to the Brazilian note of 19 February in which the Brazilian Government rejected a proposal for the coordination of the hydroelectric projects on the upper Parana. No official information has been released regarding the trip of the Argentine diplomat, who left yesterday afternoon, but his departure coincides with last week's report that the Argentine document would be delivered in Brasilia on 7 March.

Camilion's departure seems to indicate that the Argentine Foreign Ministry will release the text of the answer this afternoon, a procedure which Itamaraty has generally adopted in similar situations. Despite the secrecy surrounding the matter, it is already known that the Argentine Foreign Ministry's answer to the Brazilian note of 19 February will be strong.

TWO CASTOR-02 ROCKETS SOLD TO PERU

PY021842 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1801 GMT 2 Mar 79 PY

[Text] Cordoba, 2 Mar (TELAM)--The air force has reported that two Castor-02 rockets made in Argentina will be sent tomorrow to the Punta Lobos Air Force Base at Lima, capital of Peru. They will be transported in a Hercules C-130 plane of the Argentine Air Force, which will leave from the Military Aviation School airfield at 0700. The Argentine military delegation is headed by Lt Col Ricardo Maggi and includes 21 officers and noncommissioned officers belonging to the aiming, mounting, launching, guiding, flight security and film recording teams. The rockets, which have been bought by the Peruvian Air Force, have a range of 450-500 km. The delegation will be seen off from this capital by Brig Gen Miguel Angel Sanchez, president of the National Space Research Commission.

TIES WITH IRAN TO REMAIN UNCHANGED

PY022340 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2225 GMT 2 Mar 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Mar (TELAM)--According to information released by the Argentine Foreign Ministry at 1900 today, the Argentine Government will maintain its relations with the Iranian Government. The communique issued in this regard states that "the Argentine Government has decided to officially inform the Government of Iran through the Argentine Embassy in Tehran that it will maintain its traditionally cordial relations as it has been doing so far."

INFLATION RATE INCREASED BY 7.4 PERCENT IN FEBRUARY

PY060307 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2352 GMT 5 Mar 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Mar (NA)--The economy minister reported tonight that the consumer price index, which measures the cost of living, increased in February by 7.4 percent. Thus the accumulative increase this year to date is 21.1 percent. In February wholesale prices increased by 8 percent and construction costs increased by 6 percent.

POPE OUTLINES BEAGLE MEDIATION PROCEDURE TO PINOCHET

PY052313 Paris AFP in Spanish 2206 GMT 5 Mar 79 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 5 Mar (AFP)--It was reported here today that Pope John Paul II has communicated with the Chilean Government about the procedures which he will follow in the mediation for the Beagle Channel dispute. It was reported that his holiness sent a note to President Augusto Pinochet in which he establishes the steps of the mediation.

Chile and Argentina requested last January the intervention of the Holy See to achieve an agreement on the dispute which the two countries have over the southern region.

Chilean Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos said today that the background material on the issue has already been sent to Rome and that the Chilean delegation is ready to go to Rome at the request of the mediator.

11 BODIES FROM MINE NOW IDENTIFIED; INVESTIGATION UNDERWAY

PY030046 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1654 GMT 2 Mar 79 PY

[Excerpts] Of the 30 corpses found in an abandoned limestone mine last November, 11 have been identified so far, according to information obtained in court circles. The latest identification was made through recognition of clothing by relatives of peasants of Maipo Island, 40 km southwest of Santiago, who had been arrested and have been missing since 1973. The identified clothing belonged to Enrique Astudillo Alvarez, his sons Omar and Ramon Astudillo Rojas, and brothers Carlos Nelson and Oscar Nibaldo Hernandez Flores. The remains of Sergio Adrian Maureira Lillo, his sons Jose Manuel, Rodolfo, Segundo and Sergio Maureira Munoz, and Manuel Jesus Navarro Martinez had been identified earlier.

These peasants and another 10 had been detained by Carabineros policemen on Maipo Island on 7 October 1973 on charges of involvement in subversive activities and were presumably transferred to the Estadio Nacional, which was operated as a prison in Santiago at that time. Authorities who operated this makeshift prison have said that these persons had never been detained in there.

Carabineros Questioned

PY060200 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 5 Mar 79 PY

[Excerpts] In the past 10 days, special appointed Judge Adolfo Banados has been busy hearing testimony from the Carabineros personnel who in October 1974 belonged to a Carabineros unit stationed at Maipo Island. Judge Banados has noted that up to now he has questioned at least 10 police employees, but he added that there are other former Carabineros employees who must still be questioned. Judge Banados added: It is not easy to obtain this testimony because many of these persons have retired from the institution and others have been appointed to distant units.

But despite all these difficulties, Judge Banados said that he hoped to conclude the questioning by the end of this week. He added that he hopes to receive within this week from the Forensic Medicine Institute a complete report on the skeletons found in the abandoned Lonquen mine.

COLOMBIAN-VENEZUELAN BORDER INTEGRATION PROGRAMS TO CONTINUE

PA051929 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 5 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Eduardo Gaitan Duran, Colombia's special ambassador for affairs related to integration with Venezuela, said here today that President Luis Herrera Campins' administration, which will start its constitutional period on 13 March, guarantees the continuation and acceleration of border integration programs being carried out by Venezuela and Colombia and will promote vigorous economic growth on both sides of the border. Gaitan Duran said in connection with the integration programs that important progress has been made in the areas of agriculture, industry, transportation, beef and coal. Of these the most important is the Zulia-Urena industrial complex, which calls for an investment of about $100 million. Colombia is contributing about 45 percent, Venezuela a similar amount and the Andean Development Corporation the remaining 10 percent.

Ambassador Gaitan Duran revealed that he met recently with the new Venezuelan president, who expressed special interest in the strengthening of these integration programs. On the progress of these programs, Duran had this to say:

[Begin Gaitan Duran recording] Border integration programs between the two countries are progressing satisfactorily, especially since both nations have shown that they want to get down to specifics. Several programs have been approved. They should be carried out in the near future. I am referring in the first place to the Zulia sugar mill. Both Agrozulia and [words indistinct] are ironing out the last details of this important industrial center. [end recording]

The ambassador also said that a binational firm will soon be established to market and transport the coal which Colombia will sell to Venezuela.

VENEZUELAN POLICE IMPLICATED IN MURDER OF COLOMBIANS

PA030435 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Mar 79 PA

[Text] The Colombian consul in San Cristobal [Venezuela] disclosed today that a specialized terrorist group is responsible for the death of Colombians in a large area on the Colombian-Venezuelan border 20 km from (Tibu).

Newsman Gonzalo Guillen of the newspaper EL TIEMPO indicated today that his investigations had revealed that a specialized corps within the Venezuelan police itself appears to be responsible for the massacre of over 400 Colombians in the border area. This terrorist group has launched a campaign of violence and terror against all Colombians working in the northern portion of the border with Venezuela. In fact, it was determined that the killings took place after the Colombians had been robbed of the money that they received for their work. According to the reports [words indistinct] at least 400 bodies were found in a 15 square km cemetery located 20 km inside the border with Venezuela.

ECOPETROL PRESIDENT ANNOUNCES STEPPED-UP DRILLING PROGRAM

PA051445 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 Mar 79 PA

[Text] A revolutionary petroleum drilling program was announced last night by Alvaro Barrera Rueda, president of the Colombian Petroleum Enterprise [ECOPETROL], as a measure to cope with the energy crisis.

In statements to the "Grandes Reportajes" program of this station, Barrera Rueda said that ECOPETROL is losing 20 million pesos daily and added that the 4 billion pesos allocated to the exploration program are not enough to meet current needs. This is what Barrera Rueda had to say:

[Begin recording] ECOPETROL has been affected by the world fuel crisis caused by the suspension of Iranian oil exports. It is worth noting that Iran is one of the large oil-producing countries and before the crisis was exporting about 6 million barrels of crude a day, but at this time it has not resumed exports. What is significant about this situation is that surely in the coming months Iran will resume its exports to the West, but not at the levels at which it was supplying the Western world's market. The figure [words indistinct] at this time of 2.5 million barrels daily is a reduction of more than 50 percent in the supply of crude oil to the Western world. These conditions logically affect Colombia as they do every country in the world connected with the crude oil and fuel shortage.

Formerly we were supplied by the Brazilian Petroleum Corporation, (?the United States), Ecuador and some refineries located in the Caribbean, and we think we can conquer the crisis. However, we are not sure how things will evolve, and the future is unpredictable. We are making every effort to cope with the situation and have gotten in touch with about six firms in the area which sell fuel, asking to be sold gasoline. The result of these efforts will be known on 5 March. [end recording]

ECOPETROL President Alvaro Barrera said that in 1979 twice the number of wells dug the previous year will be planned.

ATTORNEY GENERAL: POWERFUL NATIONS SHOULD HELP CURB DRUGS

PA021415 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 2 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Bogota--Attorney General Guillermo Gonzalez Charry has stated that powerful countries which are major consumers of marihuana should cooperate in order to curb the illegal traffic. During a meeting on drugs, Gonzalez stated that the funds of poor countries should not be the only ones devoted to curb drug trafficking; those nations affected should also provide decisive support.

NEW MAGAZINE ON LATIN AMERICA BEGINS CIRCULATING

PA050202 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0139 GMT 4 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Bogota, 3 Mar (EFE)--A new continental magazine, which will attempt to fill the void which exists in the United States regarding information on Latin America, has just appeared in Colombia.

The LATIN AMERICAN TIMES was founded shortly after the crisis suffered by VISION when former Colombian President Alberto Lleras Camargo withdrew from the editorial staff and most of the newsmen and columnists resigned. The magazine, which is published in English, will be circulated in a restricted manner in the United States, where it will be available to high-ranking government officials, members of the Congress, managers and executives of private concerns and university centers. Newsmen Leopoldo Villar Borda was chosen as director of the LATIN AMERICAN TIMES, a post which he filled at VISION until a short time ago. Its columnists include, among others, former President Lleras Camargo; Felipe Herrera, former president of the Inter-American Development Bank; and Argentine professor Guido di Tella.

JOINT DECLARATION MARKS VISIT OF COLOMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

PA030421 Paris AFP in Spanish 0116 GMT 3 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Quito, 2 Mar (AFP)--Colombian Foreign Minister Diego Uribe Vargas' official activities here conluded with the signing of two bilateral agreements and a joint declaration defining foreign policy aspects of interest for both Colombia and Ecuador.

Foreign Minister Uribe, who has been here since Wednesday as a special guest of the Ecuadorean Government, this afternoon signed several documents with his Ecuadorean counterpart Jose Ayala calling for cooperation between their two governments. Uribe will return to Bogota on Saturday.

The foreign ministers signed a bilateral agreement establishing a mixed Ecuadorean-Colombian Amazonian cooperation commission which will study and coordinate programs of common interest concerning their respective neighboring Amazonian regions.

Under another agreement, the governments of the two countries will coordinate their policies for the prevention, control and repression of the traffic and illegal use of drugs and other psychotropic substances.

In the joint declaration, the two foreign ministers expressed their firm support for the principles established by international law and reiterated their firm support for the cause of international peace and cooperation.

The foreign ministers reaffirmed their permanent support for the principle of seeking peaceful solutions to international conflicts and agreed on the need to preserve and improve the efficiency of the mechanisms available for that purpose.

They indicated that it is necessary for the Third UN Conference on the Law of the Sea to keep in effect the mandate it received "to approve a convention dealing with all matters connected with the law of the sea."

The Colombian and Eucadorean foreign ministers reaffirmed their countries' sovereign rights over their respective segments of the geostationary orbit and agreed on the wisdom of coordinating with the other equatorial countries to achieve international actions to defend those rights.

They agreed to immediately evaluate the efforts of the border economic integration commission in order to prepare an agenda for a meeting of that organization to be held in the course of the present year.

In order to exploit the resources of the border areas, the foreign ministers of the two countries decided to initiate studies concerning the best use of the Mira and Mataje rivers for agricultural, energy and industrial purposes.

They reiterated their support for the process of Latin American economic integration, particularly Andean subregional integration, and agreed on the importance of the regional industrial program for the achievement of the goals of the Cartagena agreement.

The foreign ministers confirmed their respective governments' support for proposals of a new international economic order.

They expressed deep concern over the protectionist measures adopted by industrialized nations, measures which run counter to the commitments made in world forums to liberalize trade in order to promote the economic growth of developing countries.

Recognizing the importance of the banana industry to the economies of Ecuador and Colombia, the foreign ministers expressed their intention of promoting dynamic joint action in conjunction with the other producing countries in order to obtain profitable prices.

To this end, the foreign ministers of Colombia and Ecuador agreed to promote, within UNCTAD, the convening of a conference for the purpose of negotiating an international banana agreement.

Finally, the two foreign ministers expressed their intention to promote the construction of an international bridge over the San Miguel River on the Amazon border.

PARTIES SUBMIT LISTS OF CANDIDATES FOR LEGISLATURE

PA011603 Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 1 Mar 79 PA

[Excerpt] The 12 legally recognized political parties had presented more than 1,200 candidates for 69 seats in the National Chamber of Representatives by 1800, the deadline for registration of candidates for the 29 April elections. Only 11 of the 12 parties submitted lists for the national legislative seats in the chamber, the Guevarist National Party being the exception.

It was established that all parties submitted lists in at least 10 of the 20 Ecuadorean provinces abiding by [word indistinct]. Regarding the review of the lists, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal had studied the lists of 10 of the 12 parties and postponed a resolution on candidates of the Democratic Popular Union.

The lists of candidates include the names of two former presidents, Otto Arosemena del Cid and Carlos Julio Arosemena of the Revolutionary Nationalist Party. The names of six national leaders were also included, those of the Democrat Institutionalist Coalition, the Democratic Popular Union, the National Velasquista Alliance, the Concentration of Popular Forces, the Democratic Left and the Progressive Conservatives. Moreover, the lists included two former presidential candidates, Raul Clemente Huertas and Rodrigo Borja Cevallos, who head the lists of national deputies for their parties, the Liberal and the Democratic Left.

Amid the bustle of the past few hours, Col Rafael Armijo, a Conservative leader, created discord by challenging the nomination of provincial candidates of both his political friends and enemies. In effect, the Conservative Party withdrew Julio Cesar Trujillo, leader of Popular Democracy, and Fabian Alarcon Rivera, a last-minute affiliate of the Social Christian Party. By scratching Fabian Alarcon, the Conservative Party virtually turned its back on Sixto Duran Ballen, because the challenge affects the Social Christian Party, Duran's party.

It is worth recalling that the April elections are of decisive importance not only for the restoration of democracy but also for the survival of at least five political parties that are walking a tightrope. Those parties are the Socialist Party, the Guevarist National Party, the Social Christian Party, the Revolutionary Nationalist Party and the Democrat Institutionalist Coalition. They did not get the 5-percent minimum of votes cast in the past national elections. If history repeats itself in April, that is if these parties do not get at least the 5 percent, they will be eliminated from Ecuadorean politics.

ULTIMA HORA ON ROJAS DISAVOWAL OF OFFICERS' MEMORANDUM

PY022255 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 28 Feb 79 p 8 PY

[Text] According to information released today by various international news agencies, Rear Adm Isaac F. Rojas, ret, rejects the authenticity of the memorandum of the self-styled "Carlos Maria de Alvear Center of Retired Argentine Officers" regarding the reconciliation of Parana River hydroelectric projects, and especially concerning Paraguay, which was published by ULTIMA HORA.

In this regard we wish to stress the following:

1) It was in response to a specific request from ULTIMA HORA that the news agencies AP and EFE contacted Admiral Rojas asking him to refute or confirm the authenticity of the memorandum; therefore the idea of letting the author or instigator of the document also speak was that of ULTIMA HORA.

2) There is also a distortion of concept because the memorandum published in full by ULTIMA HORA is not purported to be written by the circle of commanding officers of the Argentine Armed Forces, as was incorrectly reported by the international news agencies, a mistake which could have originated in a report published by the Buenos Aires daily LA OPINION last Monday mentioning the "circle of commanding officers of the Argentine Armed Forces." The entity which released the memorandum in question is the "Carlos Maria de Alvear Center of Retired Argentine Officers."

3) Since it is obvious that the memorandum had been secret until released by ULTIMA HORA, it is natural for its author to deny its authenticity, even though this memorandum is clearly in line with the ideas he had expressed repeatedly.

Finally we wish to say that Admiral Rojas' denial is betrayed not only by the context of the confidential memorandum but also by the hostile tone which prevailed throughout the document, two basic indications which coincide mathematically with his repeatedly expressed ideas--the book, the studies and the politicoeconomic analyses published by his country's press--consistently aimed at undermining Paraguay's historical background.

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE PRESIDENT TO APPEAR IN COURT

PY022258 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 2 Mar 79 p 31 PY

[Excerpt] Mrs Carmen de Lara Castro, president of the Committee for the Defense of Human Rights in Paraguay, will have to testify before the Fourth Criminal Court at 0830 next Tuesday. Unofficial sources indicated that Judge Santiago Vera Jara made this decision before taking action in response to charges presented by State Attorney General Clotildo Jimenez Benitez, who had asked for an indictment to be drawn up for an investigation into the activities of Mrs Carmen de Lara Castro on the grounds that "the executive branch is concerned, your honor, over the notorious activity of the so-called 'Committee for the Defense of Human Rights in Paraguay!'"

ULTIMA HORA was told by court sources that the judge could draw up the appropriate indictment after hearing the witness and if he believes sufficient grounds exist for such action.

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE STATEMENT ON PROPOSED INVESTIGATION

PY051625 Asuncion LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 5 Mar 79 p 2 PY

[Text] The Paraguayan Committee for the Defense of Human Rights issued a statement yesterday concerning the request made recently by Attorney General Clotildo Jimenez Benitez to the criminal courts for an order to investigate the activities of Mrs Carmen de Lara Castro, who presides over the human rights committee.

The document issued by the committee, which is currently a source of concern for the executive branch, states "that it is completely inadmissible from a legal point of view for the attorney general to ask a criminal court to investigate the activities of the committee in a lengthy petition which does not include any concrete complaint about the alleged perpetration of any crime."

The document adds: "At the same time, the criminal court cannot order a summary or conduct any type of investigation since the intention is to reduce it to the sad condition of a mere police appendage."

It also points out that "with this precedent, judicial investigations could be opened in the future into the life and conduct of any individual or entity on the basis of mere suspicion. The committee hopes that the court will not lend itself to such a clumsy and dangerous maneuver. If it should be carried through, it would demolish the republic's entire legal system."

The document then states: "The attorney general maintains the theory that the Committee for the Defense of Human Rights and other private entities cannot denounce alleged human rights violations. This theory is totally false.

"In many cases (torture, coercion, kidnapings, aggression, insults, mistreatment, violent death, abuse of authority, appropriation of property) human rights violations are punishable crimes which can be denounced by any individual.

"On the international level, since Paraguay has signed and ratified the charters of the United Nations and the Organization of American States, the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Man (Paris, 1948) and other similar international agreements, the Paraguayan Government has accepted the international defense of such rights."

The document states that "the existence and operation of the Inter-American Human Rights Committee is proof of this, and the committee receives reports not just from governments, but mainly from private entities and individuals."

"The members of the committee, members of various political, religious, social and cultural organizations, declare their absolute solidarity with their president, Mrs Carmen de Lara Castro, who is today threatened with criminal proceedings, and identify themselves with her position.

"If defending human rights with abnegation and altruism, as Mrs Carmen de Lara Castro does, is a crime, then all members of the committee are also committing this crime, in addition to the Paraguayan church, the Committee of Churches, the democratic political parties, youth movements, labor movements and all citizens who do not ignore their consciences or mortgage their dignity," the Paraguayan Committee for the Defense of Human Rights concluded.

PRESIDENT DISCUSSES REGIONALIZATION PROCESS

PA022023 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 24 Feb 79 p 1 PA

[Excerpts] President Morales Bermudez emphasized yesterday that Peru has begun "gradually but steadfastly" a process of regionalization and administrative decentralization to solve national problems in a practical way. He made the statement during the first work meeting that he held with chiefs of six regional development organizations in the government palace. During the meeting, he announced that the next work seminar with these organizations and departmental development committees will be held in Huaraz, 7-9 March.

Noting that "it is difficult to undertake a complete regionalization process all at once" because it must be based on experience, the president explained that regionalization entails organization. This requires the training of personnel and availability of resources, various instruments that the country does not have available to undertake complete regionalization all at once. He explained that the government decided to create and operate regional development organizations, each with its own specific characteristics.

Morales Bermudez said that the seminar has been planned to "advance in the regionalization process and completely eliminate prejudice, regardless of its source." He pointed out that all executive personnel will be able to talk with sector representatives during the seminar in order to "smooth over sore points and undertake joint development action through this regionalization process." He also noted that the common aspects of the regionalization process will be discussed this time, leaving for other meetings progress made in the program and problems of regional development organization chiefs in their specific areas of action.

ECONOMY MINISTER ANNOUNCES GOVERNMENT OBJECTIVES

PA032000 Paris AFP in Spanish 1822 GMT 3 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Lima, 3 Mar (AFP)--The immediate objectives of the Peruvian military government are economic recovery and the transfer of power to civilians, Economy and Finance Minister Javier Silva said last night. These objectives are clear and have been adopted not only by the regime but by the community, the minister added. He was addressing the adjournment ceremony of the fourth national foreign trade convention.

To achieve economic recovery, he added, the government has prepared several measures designed to fully and preferentially mobilize the productive apparatus to create jobs and raise the people's income level. He mentioned among these measures the export of nontraditional services, the increase of mining exploitation, the increase of farm production and economic decentralization. "We are moving toward stability and equilibrium with the adoption of a number of measures which already have shown initial progress although being far from the solution of the nation's problems."

He then insisted upon the need to penetrate new markets and promote new sources of financing, and added that in the future salary readjustments will be larger than the price increases of staples.

He finally declared that it is up to management and the workers to set the bases of economic recovery so that civilians may assume power in a democratic and stable process.

AGRICULTURE MINISTER ANNOUNCES 1979 INVESTMENT PROGRAMS

PA022154 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 24 Feb 79 p 1 PA

[Text] Agriculture and Nutrition Minister Gen Luis Arbulu Ibanez has announced a 27.852-billion sol investment this year in a vast program to increase agricultural production and to firmly support the country's economic recovery.

The minister said in a televised speech last night that the investment signifies a 59-percent increase over the one made in 1978, which amounted to 17.521 billion soles. He added that 23.021 billion soles will be invested in natural resources programs and the expansion of farm lands, 3.860 billion soles will be invested to support production and 971 million soles will be used to improve the marketing systems.

Arbulu Ibanez said that the agrarian sector's policies have been drafted on the basis of the Tupac Amaru plan, the 1978-1980 economic plan and the 1979-1980 global [as published] development plan.

He also announced the forthcoming promulgation of new legal provisions and stressed the promulgation of six decree laws in 1978 to promote investments in programs to recover up to 5,000 hectares of land in the jungle and the creation of the agricultural development fund with 50 billion soles.

Arbulu Ibanez said that the government is planning to issue this year the new law of promotion and development of the agrarian sector, the laws of the peasant communities and the peasant enterprises, a general law on seeds and a law on production, imports, marketing and the use of pesticides.

He indicated that the participation of the private sector will be promoted through laws on technical aid and farm machinery. Also to be established with the commercial banks is a system of endorsements [avales] for the production of essential food products. There will be a centralization of the quality control service for agricultural and livestock products.

He explained that all these legal measures seek to achieve a better use of natural resources, to increase agricultural land and production, to improve marketing and to consolidate rural development.

Arbulu Ibanez also stressed the increase of investments connected with natural resources. These investments went from 28 million to 238 million soles. In this regard, he emphasized the repopulation of 715,000 hectares with 50,000 vicunas.

He said that 17.747 billion soles have been allocated for the irrigation projects of Majes-Siguas, Chira-Piura, Tinajones, Jequetepeque-Zana, Olmos, Puyango-Tumbes, Chao-Viru and Taona-Moquegua. This investment has increased by 50 percent compared to 1978.

He stressed that there will be greater efforts in implementing the small and medium irrigation programs, in which 3.654 billion soles will be invested. This investment shows a 245-percent increase. "This shows," he added, "the great importance the government is giving to the development of these irrigation projects, which will be operating shortly."

A 409-million-sol investment is planned for the rural settlements of Yarada and central Huallaga and the integral development project of the plains of La Joya, Majes and Siguas.

Among the main investment projects in regard to production, the minister mentioned the support to dairy cattle raising (1.211 billion soles), the Endepalma-Tocache project (475 million soles), the milk plant program (461 million soles), the control of hoof and mouth disease, the import of breeding cows and the cattle centers of the public enterprise for agricultural and livestock services (EPSA). There will also be a 150-million-sol investment in the construction and equipping of central distribution warehouses in 11 departmental capitals and the infrastructures for another 8 in the jungle region for rice, corn and sorghum.

Arbulu Ibanez also called for the joint participation of the public and private sectors in undertaking the great task of integral rural development in view of the evident lack of land to satisfy the increasing demands of the population.

He stressed that in order to achieve the increase of production, the use and development of appropriate technologies will be encouraged, and there will be guarantees for the timely supply of credits, machinery, seeds, fertilizers and fungicides.

He said that efforts will be made to give security to the agriculturalist so that the product, the fruit of his effort, will be channelled to a reliable distribution network which will pay him a just price.

COMMERCE MINISTER REPORTS ON EXPORTS TO ANDEAN GROUP

PA032220 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1832 GMT 3 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Lima, 3 Mar (LATIN)--Vice Adm Jorge du Bois, minister of industry, integration, tourism and commerce, said that Peru doubled its exports to the Andean Group in 1978 and that these exports amounted to $125 million as compared to $71 million in the previous year.

In a televised address last night, the minister underlined the importance of the Andean subregional agreement and affirmed that Peru has found in the agreement "an effective instrument for use in its national development."

Du Bois announced that Peru has started international bidding for the selection of the makes and models of the vehicles assigned to it in the Andean automotive development program.

He pointed out that the firms which have an effective presence in the country and in the other member nations of the Andean group--which includes Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela--have been invited to participate in the bidding.

Referring to the treatment of foreign investment, the minister pointed out that the Andean nations are aware of the fact that foreign capital "can constitute an important contribution to the economic development of the subregion."

BRIEFS

PRICE INCREASES--Lima, 1 Mar (AFP)--The Peruvian Government has increased the price of rice by 35 percent and that of milk by 20 percent, an official publication announced today. At the beginning of February the price of wheat, flour, bread, noodles and other grain products was also raised, and on 26 February the price of sugar, oil and beef was raised. To compensate for the higher prices, the government raised salaries early this year by $10 per month, to which another $6.50 has been added starting today. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1840 GMT 1 Mar 79 PA]

COPEI ACCUSES AD OF SABOTAGE; NATIONAL GUARD IN PUERTO CABELLO

PA051936 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1723 GMT 5 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Puerto Cabello, Venezuela, 5 Mar (LATIN)--The National Guard has occupied all installations in Puerto Cabello, Venezuela's most important port. The Social Christian Party [COPEI] today charged that the Democratic Action Party [AD] is stepping up its actions to sabotage the next administration.

Enrique Samaniego, president of the National Institute of Ports [INP], reported that it has been confirmed in Puerto Cabello, 211 km northwest of Caracas, that more than 180 port employees, including the chief of personnel, have been redesignated blue collar workers in order to enjoy [word indistinct]. The INP president also reported that Puerto Cabello Manager Hector Melgarejo has been suspended and that an acting manager appointed. The official noted that approximately 600 workers had been unjustifiably placed under contract at a cost of $250,000 a week to the institute.

Samaniego warned that if the labor leaders do not become aware of the need to fight this serious situation the port may be paralyzed. The port receives 80 percent of the bulk cargo for food supplies and almost 50 percent of Venezuela's general cargo.

COPEI Party member Gonzalez [not further identified] stated that the attempt to take over the port by AD government officials, which prompted intervention by the INP and the National Guard, reveals the dishonest behavior of certain members of that party. According to the labor leader, an attempt to manipulate the unions is underway with the aim of creating simulated conflicts. He also said that similar situations are occurring at other levels of the public administration.

SENATORS ELECT NATIONAL CONGRESS PRESIDENT, OTHER OFFICIALS

PA051238 Caracas VENPRES Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0731 GMT 3 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Caracas, 2 Mar (VENPRES)--Dr Godofredo Gonzalez, president of the Social Christian Party [COPEI], was unanimously elected today by the 46 senators who make up the Senate as president of that body and consequently president of the Congress of the Republic during the 1979-1984 constitutional period.

Dr Rafael Caldera attended the National Congress installation ceremony. Democratic Action [AD] Party maximum leader and former Venezuelan President Romulo Betancourt did not attend the important event because of poor health, as he revealed in a note sent to Gonzalo Barrios.

Once Godofredo Gonzalez' nomination had been unanimously approved, outgoing congressional President Gonzalo Barrios proclaimed him National Congress president.

The Senate then nominated and approved the candidacies of the rest of the Senate leadership comprised of Pedro Paris Montesinos of AD, first vice president; Simon Antoni Payan of the Democratic Republican Union, second vice president; Jose Rafael Garcia, secretary; and Jorge Ramos Guerra, deputy secretary.

Once protocolary requirements had been met, Carlos Canache Mate of AD was elected president of the Chamber of Deputies by unanimous vote.

Deputy Felipe Montilla of COPEI was elected first vice president and Eloy Torres of the Movement for Socialism was elected second vice president. Rafael Marin was elected Chamber of Deputies secretary.

LOPEZ-PORTILLO TO MEET WITH GROUP OF 12 MEMBERS 8 MARCH

PA012226 Paris AFP in Spanish 2019 GMT 1 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 1 Mar (AFP)--It was announced here today that Mexican President Jose Lopez-Portillo will meet with members of the Group of 12 on 8 March.

The announcement was made by Fernando Cardenal. He, along with Ernesto Castillo, Carlos Tunnerman and Ricardo Coronel, is one of the members of "the 12" who are visiting Mexico at the invitation of the governing Institutional Revolutionary Party [PRI].

The members of "the 12," a nonpartisan opposition group, said that a new guerrilla offensive in Nicaragua against President Anastasio Somoza's regime is imminent.

They said that Somoza, who "is more isolated every day," responds to the demands of the united people with "increasingly more brutal repression."

The members of the group said that they will ask Lopez-Portillo to have "Mexico request at the OAS that the Human Rights Commission's report on Nicaragua be publicized."

They added that they will also ask the president to try to get the United States "to apply a more severe policy toward the Somoza regime."

The members of "the 12" said that, regarding publication of the OAS Human Rights Commission's report on Nicaragua, they have the support of the presidents of Panama, Venezuela, Colombia, Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic.

1980 OIL PRODUCTION MAY RISE TO 4 MILLION BARRELS PER DAY

PA042230 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2118 GMT 4 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 4 Mar (EFE)--Jorge Diaz Serrano, director of the Mexican state petroleum (PEMEX) monopoly, said here today, Sunday, that the possibility of having Mexico produce 4 million barrels of oil a day will be reviewed in 1980.

The official said that the goal of 2.2 million barrels a day, originally planned for 1982 and then brought forward to next year, will be met in 1979.

Diaz Serrano later warned that the prices of Mexican crude will be reviewed next month. He did not rule out the possibility of exporting oil derivatives.

Diaz Serrano's statement implies an important shift in Mexican oil policy. Mexico had insistently announced that it would not raise its production "ceiling" once it had reached 2.2 million barrels a day.

It is believed that Mexico will initially export one-half of that amount. In addition, it is felt that the many requests for oil purchases from various countries and the constant increases in hydrocarbon reserves have led the Mexican Government to revise its stand.

COSTA RICA

CARAZO, ROYO ISSUE JOINT DECLARATION ON 3 MARCH MEETING

PA032222 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1926 GMT 3 Mar 79 PA

[Test of joint declaration issued on 3 March 1979 by Panamanian President Aristides Royo and Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo in Sixaola, Costa Rica--read by unidentified speaker]

[Text] Aristides Royo, president of the Republic of Panama, has visited the Republic of Costa Rica to hold a personal meeting with Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo Odio. The meeting was held in Sixaola, a town on the border with the Republic of Panama.

At the end of this meeting both chief executives reaffirmed their people's feelings of friendship and expressed their profound satisfaction over the harmonious and happy conclusions which were reached by them in this meeting and which will strengthen even more the strong bonds of fraternity that have existed between Panama and Costa Rica.

They agreed to join efforts to exercise an effective defense of tuna resources and a better and more rational use of this resource in the zones in which they have jurisdiction over fishing. They agreed to reactivate the negotiations through the joint commissions established by both nations in 1978 to promote border cooperation between both countries. Both parties agreed to coordinate efforts to curb illegal commerce between Panama and Costa Rica and agreed to have the joint commissions set up by both nations continue the efforts undertaken in June 1978. They also agreed that the steps to be taken will always be the logical consequence of the mutual respect which must exist between two fraternal countries.

President Carazo thanked President Royo for the permanent and determined support of the Panamanian people and government for Costa Rica's position in international organizations regarding the differences with Nicaragua.

President Royo repeated the support of his government for the project presented by the president to the 23d UN General Assembly to create the university of peace in Costa Rica.

Both chief executives examined points of interest to both nations as well as recent world events. They emphasized the energy problem produced by petroleum and its derivatives and agreed to carry out joint efforts as purchasers to obtain an adequate supply and fair prices since this is a factor which is essential to the development of both nations. They stressed the importance of the coming seminar of the International Telecommunications Union to be held in Panama City. This seminar is part of the preparations for the World Administrative Conference on Radio and Technology which will be held in Geneva, Switzerland, in September 1979. They reaffirmed the importance of technology to the field of communications, based on the principle that communications is a natural right in which developing nations play a role of vital importance.

Finally, they attested that what has been agreed to has once again confirmed the understanding and traditional friendship which has united both nations.

Sixaola, 3 March 1979

Carazo-Royo News Conference

PA041200 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1930 GMT 3 Mar 79 PA

[News conference granted by Panamanian and Costa Rican Presidents Aristides Royo and Rodrigo Carazo, respectively, at Panamanian border town of Guabito following the meeting between the two presidents--live]

[Text] [Question] Messrs President, the press stated that you were going to discuss the problem of Nicaragua and its consequences for Central America. What conclusions did you reach?

[Carazo] [Words indistinct] our government's position, reflecting the feeling of the people, is exactly the same as it has been throughout these past months. It is logical that in my talks with President Royo we should have discussed the problem of Nicaragua, among other things. However, I must say that there is no change in the position which we have held throughout all these months.

[Question] And President Royo?

[Royo] Our position is well known. Panama has taken into account the fact that the main publicizer of the Panamanian position has been General Somoza himself. We have personally reaffirmed to President Carazo today what we had already told him in messages through Foreign Minister Calderon Fournier on various occasions: Panama's unconditional support for Costa Rica at international forums, our support for that friendly people and country. [applause]

[Question] Mr President: The Costa Rican Government is determined to defend its patrimonial waters and this has led to the detention of various tuna boats, particularly boats from the United States. Consequently, the United States has threatened to block the tuna trade. Does this protocol [not further identified] also provide for the defense of Costa Rica's rights concerning its tuna? I would like you, President Royo, to comment on this struggle being waged by Costa Rica to defend its marine resources.

[Royo] Costa Rica has the right to defend its marine patrimonial resources. I believe that both Panama and Costa Rica and many other countries have been sending officials to the Law of the Sea conferences for several years and no completely positive results have been obtained. But results have been achieved in the laws which protect the patrimonial resources of each country, and Costa Rica has every right to exercise and enforce them. What you consider to be the Costa Rican struggle is also Panama's struggle. One should have no fear of intimidation since it is now a typical reaction. Every time a country initiates a just and legitimate action, there is often the statement: Now we will apply the [word indistinct] now we will suspend loans; now we will no longer give you money. However, I believe that justice prevails and Costa Rica will render justice as it sees fit and Panama will do the same regarding the protection of its natural resources.

[Carazo] President Royo, I wish to make a brief comment in this regard. Costa Rica is carrying on a struggle for its marine resources with the conviction that it is defending a resource which the people demand that the government defend. Costa Rica knows that it is breaking a tradition which determined that the resources of our country could be freely used by other rich nations of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission. Fortunately, times and men change. Panama has given open, frank and sincere assistance ever since we began this struggle. We are convinced that this struggle to achieve a rational use of marine resources in territorial waters will be won because we have justice, right and logic on our side.

[Question] Messrs President of Panama and Costa Rica, I would like to ask a question of both presidents. What importance and what benefits do you attribute to the agreements reached by the two countries today?

[Carazo] I was saying to President Royo that, fortunately, the joint declaration and the agreements which were signed are not mere protocolary material but, rather, that they outline the position of both nations regarding specific problems and very well-established goals which the nations have decided to carry out through our governments and, I am certain, with the help of the people.

Economic development is the first and most important concern of our governments and nations and this concern, along with a spirit of solidarity not only conceived in a practical sense but also directed toward those well-established goals, is reflected in specific things such as the maintenance of natural resources, the exploitation of resources and the promotion of the proper use of the border area for the activities of both nations.

I am convinced that the terms of the joint declaration and the agreements which we have signed today constitute a step forward in the already traditional and historical friendship between our two countries. [applause]

[Royo] I subscribe to every one of President Carazo's words. I add only the fact that the understanding which exists between Costa Rica and Panama is not a mere symbol but rather an example, a real, concrete and true example of the understanding which hopefully will prevail in the relations among all the countries of Latin America and even the world.

In addition, I want to say that we have not limited ourselves to a joint declaration because they usually contain only good principles. That joint declaration was preceded by a number of documents which already constitute very specific and concrete examples of the relations between the two countries. In other words, much remains to be done from here on in with regard to the documents which the two countries have signed.

[Question] Mr. President of Costa Rica, in Sixaola a few hours ago you used two concepts to denote the independence which should be maintained by both Panama and Costa Rica. My question concerns Costa Rican foreign policy. The two concepts were alienation and alinement. Would you like to expand on these two terms, particularly as to whether they apply to the foreign policy of the Costa Rican Government and people?

[Carazo] I meant, Mr Newsman, exactly what each of the two words means in good Spanish. We are not subject either to the tradition that binds or to the custom that blinds. Neither are we prepared to follow the paths pursued by others for their own interests. The responsibility of nations, and specifically of governments, obliges each to choose the path which best reflects the sacred interests of that country without ever adjusting its behavior to the vested interests of other nations or groups of nations.

Therefore, we are not alienated and we are not alined. I take pleasure in saying this and I note a very similar attitude in Panama, which is why I greeted President Royo with the words that you have been kind enough to repeat at this time.

[Question] President Royo of Panama, my question is related to the event which took place today. In the past, Mr President, there has been much talk of violence, of disrespect for human rights in Panama, of poverty.

Since the agreement which has been signed here is expected to at least bring some progress for the two nations, I would like to ask you, Mr President, if Panama is presently in a stage of progress, a stage in which the country is moving forward instead of backward, a stage in which human rights are respected, in which there is a completely free press?

[Royo] Those are about five questions. I believe that it is very interesting. I definitely rule out the thesis that progress came to Panama with Aristides Royo. I believe that there has been progress in Panama with Aristides Royo. I believe that there has been progress in Panama in all eras. However, since the revolutionary process began on 11 October 1968, there have definitely been more routes to progress in our country. This does not mean that everything has been done correctly. Every generation which has access to power and to the leadership and government of a country has the unavoidable duty of trying to bring more progress to the country and to have the country move more vigorously.

I believe that Panama is a democracy. It is a democracy because human rights are not curtailed here, because there is freedom of expression, because there is not a single political prisoner in our country, because it is a peaceful country where there is no recourse to torture or imprisonment, because it is a country where constitutional resources are fully observed--the right of habeas corpus, the protection of guarantees--because it is a country where we truly believe in popular representation, a country which has a constitution that is respected, which has a system that provides for independence in a harmonious cooperation among the branches of government--legislative in relation to the executive, both in relation to the judicial branch, and all among themselves [as heard]. It is a country which has new experiences every day, new experiences which I would call progressive, an example being the fact that a new law on political parties has been established. Unlike the former laws which required 5,000 members per party, allowing the existence of 22 political parties, we have a sound law on political parties today, one which demands 30,000 members per party, a law which naturally establishes different situations. However, those situations will have to be worked out by the citizens at the time they exercise their civil rights.

We believe that these relations which result from these agreements that were signed today between two countries which possess self-determination, between two countries which are neither alienated or alined, between two countries which have great affection for each other.... [does not complete sentence] I am sure that neither President Carazo nor President Royo would sit down with one of his counterparts who was not a democrat and who did not believe in freedom and in human rights.

[Presumably Carazo] That is correct.

[Question] President Royo, with all due respect, I would like to ask you something which has always been of concern to me. Who governs in Panama: Aristides Royo or Gen Omar Torrijos?

[Answer] I believe that what I should do is invite you to tour the country and see for yourself who governs in Panama. It is true that General Torrijos governed this country with a government team as chief of government, sharing tasks with President Demetrio Basilio Lakas. However, after 1978 specifically on 11 October, the figure of chief of government disappeared. It had been legally incorporated into the constitution and then it disappeared. General Torrijos has retreated. This is the word which is used. He has returned to his former role of commander of the National Guard and that is the post which he fills. On the other hand, as you have seen, foreign policy is directed by the president of the republic and the foreign minister. [applause]

[Carazo] [Words indistinct] bold project of extraordinary importance which has been signed today, I thought that a question would have been asked in this regard, but since it has not been asked and the weather obliges us to keep this news conference brief, I would like to make a direct comment on the project.

We have signed a document which creates the International Park of Friendship. Panama and Costa Rica physically join as brothers in that park. It is being created to protect the natural resources of an extensive area on the Pacific watershed of our nations' territory which crosses into the Atlantic watershed. This protection of natural resources is one purpose but at the same time there is a view toward the use of the hydroelectric resources, which are a most important source of energy. Undoubtedly, some of these resources will be used in the future by Costa Rica and others by Panama in their respective territories, but it could undoubtedly be advantageous and opportune to effect a joint development of resources. It will be up to the technicians of the future to determine what the most appropriate and adequate use of the area should be.

However, the important thing is--an unusual thing in Latin America--that two bordering nations have agreed to have a national park--I mean national in quotes--which has international characteristics and which will be jointly administered under a harmonious policy, with guidance established by the same group of technicians who [words indistinct] of both nations and who pledge to protect the extraordinarily rich hydrographic basin of the river we in Costa Rica know as Rio (Potombo).

All this, newsmen, is graphically illustrated in the maps which technicians have placed in the corridors of the building and which we invite you to observe. In its territory, its symbolism and its future, this International Park of Friendship reflects, in a real and positive manner, the relations between Panama and Costa Rica, between the two peoples, between the two governments.

We are setting a foundation and roots in our common past, in our present which is full of similar goals, in the future which should be of interest to both nations. We are planting positive things.

I would like to say clearly for the record that we are doing this as a tribute to generations to come and in full compliance with our responsibility today with regard to the extraordinary resources which God has given our people and which the rulers must protect for the generations of the future. Thank you very much. [applause]

[Royo] To close the activities which have taken place today I would like to sincerely thank President Carazo for his brief, but very productive visit to our country and say that activities such as these will contribute directly toward strengthening even more the magnificent ties which join the people and the governments of both nations.

I would like to take advantage of the opportunity to say that the joint declaration also gives impetus to an initiative of the two presidents involving our joint concern over oil derivatives. We are going to work hand in hand--President Carazo and myself--to achieve fairer prices and an adequate supply of those resources. I believe that we should also work together to design plans for rationing and for a better utilization of vital fuels.

However, I do not wish to let this opportunity pass, in the presence of the communications media and the people of Bocas del Toro who are here, to publicly congratulate President Rodrigo Carazo. A short time ago he was awarded the International Peace Prize. For this reason Panama will even more strongly support his initiative to have the inter-American university of peace established in Costa Rica.

He who is the chief of a people who are victims without ever having been aggressors--in certain situations which were not provoked by those people--and he who acts democratically in a democratic country such as Costa Rica has all merit and all moral authority, not only to receive the peace prize, but also to establish a Latin American university dedicated to the tasks and the problems of peace. Thank you very much.

CIVIL GUARD OCCUPIES HILL, LAUNCHES PATROL OPERATIONS

PA052022 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1630 GMT 5 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Fifty members of the public force yesterday occupied hill 353, a trouble spot which has given rise to many accusations by the Somozist National Guard to the effect that the Costa Rican Government harbors guerrillas of the Sandinist National Liberation Front in that sector.

The operation was led by Majors Ulate, (Idonate) and Campos. It was proved that no shots could have been fired from the hill against the towns of Penas Blancas and Sapoa in Nicaraguan territory. As a matter of fact, no evidence was found that any military post existed there.

Col Fernando Munoz Marin said that the government has thus achieved two fundamental objectives: It has proved that there are no Sandinists there, and now that the hill has been occupied it can better safeguard the peace of the area's inhabitants.

Colonel Munoz said that a strong detachment of Civil Guardsmen has been left at hill 353. They will maintain an operations center there until the Nicaraguan crisis ends. He said that some 600 or 700 meters away, in Nicaraguan territory, is hill 358. Unlike hill 353, this hill could well be a center of operations for the Sandinists from which they may be launching attacks against the Nicaraguan towns of Penas Blancas and Sapoa.

Most of the contingent posted at the border with Nicaragua will begin an intensive patrol this morning, Colonel Munoz said. He explained that, parallel to Lake Nicaragua and going north to Salinas, over 50 km will be patrolled within the next 48 hours. Other areas will be patrolled by airborne units since patrol work in this area and at this time of the year is extremely difficult for Civil Guard personnel.

EL SALVADOR

ROMERO SAYS PROBLEMS WILL BE SOLVED DOMESTICALLY

PA052010 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1649 GMT 5 Mar 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 5 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Salvadoran President Carlos Humberto Romero has said that this country's problems will be given Salvadoran solutions. He added: "Out with foreign hands." Romero made the statement over the weekend while delivering parcels of land to 356 peasant families in San Antonio Silva Canton, Union Department.

The president said that the government's enemies criticize, accuse and condemn it, but none raises his voice to give it credit for all the good it is doing for the sake of peace, harmony, progress and well-being. Romero added that talk of freedom may not mean freedom, citing as an example a country where there is not even freedom to think. He added that the ruler of that country has been in power for over 20 years, apparently alluding to the Cuban Government.

The land that was distributed was part of a property purchased by the Salvadoran Institute of Agrarian Transportation (ISTA) at a cost of almost $5 million. The Salvadoran government has thus begun the distribution of land it had announced. An additional 37,000 manzanas will be distributed to peasant families this year.

CIVILIANS KILLED IN CLASH WITH NATIONAL GUARD

PA042132 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1853 GMT 5 Mar 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 5 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--San Salvador's National Guard disclosed today that four civilians died yesterday in an armed clash in the area of San Sebastian, 49 km east of this capital. The security corps reported that Sergeants Julio Cesar Portillo and Juan Ramon Romero and Cpl Miguel Urquilla Ramiret were wounded during the clash which occurred when about 15 unidentified individuals ambushed a guard patrol. The dead civilians have not been identified because they were not carrying documents or any other identification. According to the guard, the rest of the assailants fled with arms of various kinds.

GUATEMALA

CUSTOMS DUTIES NOW CHARGED ON HONDURAN PRODUCTS

PA060300 Paris AFP in Spanish 0050 GMT 6 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 5 Mar (AFP)--It has been announced here that the Guatemalan Government ordered customs duties to begin being charged immediately at the border on products coming from Honduras. The measure was adopted this afternoon at the request of the Guatemalan industrialists, who complained that Honduras had been charging customs duties despite the fact that the economy ministers of the two countries had agreed not to do so while the new bilateral trade agreement was under discussion.

The previous treaty expired 1 month ago and since then the border has been closed on several occasions in an attempt to interfere with free trade. It has been learned that this week, Guatemalan Economy Minister Valentin Solorzano will go to Tegucigalpa, Honduras, to continue the negotiations.

HONDURAS

REPORTED NICARAGUAN VIOLATION OF AIRSPACE BEING INVESTIGATED

PA060421 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1913 GMT 5 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 5 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The Honduran Army has assigned a special commission of officers to the country's southern area, which borders on Nicaragua, to investigate the charge of another airspace violation. According to the charge, on 26 February a Nicaraguan Air Force helicopter penetrated Honduran territory up to a distance of 20 km and made rooftop-level passes over several towns of the southern Choluteca Department.

Last month the Honduran Foreign Ministry protested to the Nicaraguan Government for the flight over and machinegunning of Honduran territory by a Nicaraguan helicopter. The protest warned that such incidents should not be repeated because they could upset the ties of friendship between the two countries.

Hubert Bodden Caceres, commander of the 11th Infantry Battalion, which has its headquarters in Choluteca, said that the investigation was ordered because one could not lodge a protest based solely on people's reports. The officer deplored the fact that the Nicaraguan Air Force has violated Honduran airspace and said that it was difficult to confirm the violations "because they always overfly areas where no military units are stationed." He denied rumors to the effect that the Honduran Army would establish special outposts along the country's border with Nicaragua.

NICARAGUA

CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENT SAYS ECONOMIC SITUATION IMPROVING

PA060343 Managua Estacion X in Spanish 0030 GMT 6 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Roberto Incer Barquero, president of the Central Bank of Nicaragua, reported today that the International Monetary Fund has told the Managua government that political criteria will not prevail again in a new consideration of the Managua position before the fund. He was also told that several directors have voiced their support for a new Nicaraguan (?petition) put before the fund in a new effort to straighten out its economy.

The director of the Nicaraguan monetary situation added that the internal situation in Nicaragua has visibly improved. Our country's ability to produce and export has been fully demonstrated, even under a situation of uncertainty. The coffee and cotton harvests have been good, exports have moved in a satisfactory manner and the dollars these exports are producing will allow Nicaragua to (?cover) new harvests, Incer Barquero added. The official emphasized that those who forecast a total collapse of the Nicaraguan economy have been proven wrong, although he reiterated that the dollar reserves in the (?North American) banks are practically zero and that the government hopes the foreign credit organizations will [words indistinct] while we recover our capacity to pay.

COTTONGROWERS STAGE DEMONSTRATION TO PROTEST TAXES

PA060332 Managua Estacion X in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Mar 79 PA

[Text] The cottongrowers of this country this morning tried to stage a big show by parading with their machinery along some Managua streets, but they were not very successful. Very few persons, if anyone at all, paid any attention to the cottongrowers' parade.

Finance Ministry sources reported that the cottongrowers' show is the result of the fact that [figure indistinct] percent of their exports will be withheld as of today. The sources added that this percentage will be used to force the cottongrowers to declare their revenue to the government; in other words, to force them to pay their taxes, something which they have not done in a long time.

Meeting With Somoza Scheduled

PA060333 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2318 GMT 5 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 5 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The cottongrowers, who have been unsuccessful in their protest over a farm withholding tax established by the Nicaraguan Government, today managed to have President Anastasio Somoza grant them a meeting scheduled for tomorrow, Tuesday.

The internal revenue office has implemented a withholding tax amounting to 28 cordobas ($4) per 100 pounds of baled cotton to make sure that cottongrowers file income tax returns. The cottongrowers consider the amount of the withholding tax to be excessively high to the point that this year, although they were told at the beginning of the season that there would be no more withholding taxes, the government will be able to keep nearly 87 million cordobas ($12.4 million).

The country's severe economic crisis, the high cost of materials used to grow cotton and the excessive amount the government is withholding--what the cottongrowers consider to be double taxation--has forced the cottongrowers' decision to suspend their activities for the current year if the government does not change its policy regarding the principle product of the Nicaraguan economy.

The cottongrowers associations from Managua and the east and the west carried out demonstrations today, Monday, using their farm machinery in order to make more effective the protest campaign that they have been conducting through the news media and meetings throughout the country after having met with failure in their meetings with Maj Gen Samuel Genie, finance and public credit minister, and Carlos Dubon, internal revenue director general.

Tractors, trailers, harvesters, other types of vehicles and light equipment used at the plantations were used in the demonstrations in the cities of Leon and Chinandega, located in the western part of the country.

Cottongrowers from Masaya and Granada, in the eastern zone, joined the cottongrowers in Managua in the march through the main streets in this capital. There were no major obstacles despite moderate police vigilance. The vehicles carried posters with slogans referring to the farm withholding tax and slogans of a political nature demanding a "stop to military repression in cities and rural areas" and "a Nicaragua for all and not just for one family."

Leaders of the cottongrowers finally said here that their next moves will depend on the results of their meeting with President Somoza tomorrow.

LA PRENSA DIRECTOR ESCAPES POSSIBLE SHOOTING

PA052020 Paris AFP in Spanish 1908 GMT 5 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 5 Mar (AFP)--LA PRENSA, Nicaraguan opposition paper, reports that Director Danilo Aguirre almost lost his life in an attack today. Aguirre has received anonymous death threats on numerous occasions during the wave of violence the country is experiencing. According to LA PRENSA, a man was about to fire a revolver at Aguirre in southeastern Managua when he was suddenly spotted by a woman who sounded the alarm, causing the would-be killer to flee.

Aguirre's major duties pertain to the handling of LA PRENSA's daily news. The daily newspaper NOVEDADES, the government organ, pinpointed him as directly responsible for the wave of violence in Nicaragua. Aguirre contends that it is his journalistic duty to publish news on violence every day because that is what is taking place in Nicaragua every day.

Meanwhile, a young man died in western Managua this morning when a military patrol opened fire on him. Another young man with him was seriously wounded.

RAUL CASTRO IN BULGARIA REITERATES SUPPORT FOR SRV

FL051224 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 5 Mar 79 FL

[Text] In Sofia, Cuba and Bulgaria have reiterated their condemnation of the Chinese invasion of Vietnam and their solidarity with and support for the cause of that heroic nation. Army Generals Raul Castro and Dobri Dzhurov, ministers of Cuba's Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] and Bulgaria's national defense, respectively, expressed the support of our countries for the Vietnamese people during a military ceremony held at a Bulglarian military unit.

Cuba's FAR minister pointed out that with its aggressive action, the Chinese governing clique has demonstrated to the world its strategic alliance with imperialism and its goals of hegemony and world domination. At this point in the conflict our party and people are convinced that the Beijing mandarins' hegemonism and expansionism will be dealt a humiliating defeat in Ho Chi Minh's heroic fatherland. Our party's second secretary proposed the creation of a broad front composed of the socialist community, the international communist and workers' movement and all anti-imperialist and progressive forces to force the Maoist leadership to halt its typically fascist invasion and unconditionally withdraw its troops from Vietnamese territory.

For his part, Army Gen Dobri Dzhurov stated that with this action, the Chinese leadership has transformed its country into the shock force of the most reactionary circles and a real threat to world peace.

During the military ceremony the FAR minister presented a Bulgarian unit with the flag of combat brotherhood between our armed forces. Army Gen Raul Castro arrived in Bulgaria last Thursday at the invitation of Todor Zhivkov, first secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party and chairman of the Council of State.

ALARCON ADDRESSES NONALINED BUREAU MEETING AT UN

FL060248 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Mar 78 FL

[Text] Today Cuba pointed out the importance for nonalined countries to study the pertinent measures to comply with the decisions taken by the heads of state of the nonalined countries in the struggle against imperialism and colonialism. This is a report that we have just received in our studio. In speaking at the nonalined countries Coordinating Bureau meeting at the United Nations, Ricardo Alarcon, Cuban vice minister of foreign relations, referred to among other decisions those referring to the effective recognition of the Palestinian Liberation Organization--PLO--by all nonalined country members, the complete rupture in all types of links with the South African racist regime and the adoption of a joint strategy against Zionism. Added to the list is putting into practice effective measures for political and material support of national liberation movements in southern Africa and applications of effective sanctions against Israel and South Africa by the international community.

Alarcon said that these and other important positions relating to aspects of liberation struggles of peoples are the essence of the 15th topic and have not yet been fully carried out. He said that this is the reason that the pertinent measures are being studied so that they can be fully carried out when they are considered at the sixth summit meeting in Havana. He added that this should be the most important aspect of the work being done in New York with regard to this topic. The delegations of Algeria, the PLO, Ethiopia and Vietnam, among others, expressed points of view which coincided with those presented by the Cuban vice minister.

REPORT ON WORK OF MEDICAL AID DELEGATION IN JAMAICA

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[Report from Jamaica by special correspondent Lucia Gonzalez]

[Text] Following the visit by our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro to the fraternal Jamaican country, medical aid to that country has greatly increased. At present more than 40 Cuban specialists are working in 13 of the 26 existing hospitals in Jamaica, located in various provinces of the country.

Pediatrician Felix Alvarez--belonging to the 26 July movement, founder of the national revolutionary militias at the University of Havana, participant in the Escambrai clean-up, assistant professor at the University of Havana, member of our party, chief of the medical brigade to Laos in 1974 and now chief of the medical delegation in Jamaica--in an exclusive interview for the National Radio News show, speaks to us about the work being done by the Cuban doctors in that fraternal country.

[Begin Alvarez recording] Well there are, shall we say, quantitative and qualitative aspects. The quantitative aspects can be simply measured by using some indicators such as, for example, the number of patients who have been seen by the delegation. In this sense it is very important to point out the work done by the Cuban medical brigade in Savana la Mar, the first brigade beginning its work in 1976. It should be said for the comrades in the first brigade, as well as in the second one, the present one, that the total number of patients seen in one way or another surpasses one quarter million, including [words indistinct] outside consultations, not only at the hospitals but also in the polyclinics that are dependencies of the Savana la Mar hospital. This is the quantitative aspect. Added to this are the several thousand patients seen over the last few months by the comrades who are working over here in the capital or who are working in other towns, as we said in the beginning--Falmouth in this case.

Among the qualitative aspects, it seems to us the most important fact is that Jamaican patients see that Cuban ethical attention has human feelings. Medical attention--that is socialist medicine, our revolutionary medicine--in great measure reflects human feelings. [end recording]

In addition to the assistance work provided by the Cuban doctors in Jamaica, they carry out other activities, of which Dr Alvarez said:

[Begin Alvarez recording] There are a number of activities which we carry out--two types let us say: internal and external types. The internal type is a series of social actitivies, which are done by all brigades, for example the activities carried out by the Trade Union Association delegation of the brigade on behalf of the comrades of the collective activities, which are also carried out by the Federation of Cuban Women, which is also incorporated in our delegation. Other types of political activities include the commemoration of historical dates, study groups and conferences, which include scientific and medical subjects. These we give twice a month, presented by one of the members of the brigade. We try to develop not only scientific aspects but also political and cultural aspects, and in particular we (?make special efforts) with the language because, as is known, the language is the basic and fundamental aspect which permits us to communicate adequately with the Jamaican people. [end recording]